

B inside Boulder

The City of Boulder's Community Newsletter

In a flash, our community can change

City Manager's Message

By City Manager Jane S. Brautigam

Flash floods can literally occur "in a flash" during a severe storm. The city of Boulder is at the highest risk for flash floods in the state of Colorado. This is due largely to the city's location at the mouth of Boulder Canyon and within a large floodplain. Flooding has the potential to affect a large number of people who live and work in the city. Not only is the Boulder Canyon area an identified high flood risk area, but other drainage basins throughout Boulder are vulnerable to flash floods as well.

Boulder's peak flood season runs from April 1 through Sept. 30; however, floods can happen anytime throughout the year. Boulder has 15 creeks with floodplains. This affects more than 15 percent of the city and more than 2,000 structures. With this reality, I urge community members to make flood preparation a priority.

What does the city do to prepare for flash floods?

The city prepares for flooding on numerous fronts. The most recent of many ongoing planning efforts done by the city is the Multi-hazard Mitigation Plan that was adopted in 2008. This plan documents the hazards that threaten the city and identifies flood mitigation goals and best strategies to lessen impacts. Flood mapping projects help us to determine where flooding will occur and these studies in turn determine what kind of floodplain improvement projects are needed. We also use our floodplain information to regulate development that can occur in the floodplain in order to help minimize damage to property and loss of human life.

Floodplain improvements help mitigate impacts from flood waters by managing where flood water flows. You may not realize this, but most of our multi-use path underpasses - in addition to supporting alternate modes of travel - are conveyance structures for floodwaters during a flash flood.

That's right! The underpasses are meant to flood during an event in order to help keep the floodwaters off the roadways and nearby properties. Underpasses are not the place to seek shelter during a rainstorm. In all underpasses that could potentially flood, warning signs are posted reminding residents of this danger.

This spring, the Boulder Office of Emergency Management is conducting two flood exercises to ensure that in an emergency, the city and county are well prepared. Officials conducted a tabletop exercise on March 11 and a full-scale exercise is scheduled for April 16. The public is encouraged to prepare and practice their own evacuation plans around this time.

As city officials continue working toward making Boulder a better-prepared community, I encourage the Boulder public to prepare themselves, their families and their co-workers on how to respond during a flood event. Please read the What Can You Do? information found in the box below. The city and its public safety personnel do everything they can to respond to emergency events, but I can't stress enough how important it is that residents demonstrate personal responsibility by having an emergency plan and by following weather warnings and instructional information during a flood or other emergency event.

Go to www.boulderfloodinfo.net to find out if you live or work in a floodplain, how to prepare to respond to a flood, and how to create an emergency kit. Go to www.readycolorado.com and www.ready.gov for information about how to prepare for an emergency.



Credit: Ann Duncan

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What Can You Do in Case of a Flood?

Get Prepared

- Find out if your home or place of work are in a floodplain.
- Keep an emergency kit accessible.
- Have a plan for where your family will meet in an emergency and make sure children know where to go when they are at school.

During a Flood

- Move to higher ground immediately.
- Avoid walking through flowing waters. Swift moving waters may sweep people away causing death.
- Avoid driving through flooded areas. Cars float in 18 inches of water; half of all flood fatalities are auto-related.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. Electrocutation is the number two killer in floods.

After the Flood

- Avoid returning to disaster areas until authorized.
- Clean everything that got wet.

Flood Warning System

Boulder has a state-of-the-art flood warning system. It monitors rain and stream gauges, weather radar, the National Weather Service and in-field reporting with a goal to provide 20-40 minutes of advance notice for major flooding events. During inclement weather, residents should: listen to the radio, listen to siren instructions, check Channel 8 and other local TV stations or call 303-441-4300.

Siren Testing

Sirens are tested at 10 a.m. on the first Monday of every month between April and August.



City of Boulder Directory

City Attorney's Office

City Attorney: Jerry Gordon
303-441-3020

City Manager's Office

City Manager: Jane S. Brautigam
303-441-3090

Channel 8

Station Manager: Don Chapman
303-441-4395

Communication

Interim Manager: Jodie Carroll
303-441-3155

Downtown and University Hill Management

Division & Parking Services
Director: Molly Winter
303-413-7300

Business Assistance/ Economic Vitality

Business Liaison: Liz Hanson
303-441-3287

Emergency Management (City and County)

Director: Jerry Tate
303-441-3390

Environmental Affairs

Manager: Jonathan Koehn
303-441-4900

Finance

Director: Bob Eichem
303-441-3040

Fire

Fire Chief: Larry Donner
303-441-3350

Housing and Human Services

Interim Director: Karen Rahn
303-441-3157

Human Resources

Director: Eileen Gomez
303-441-3070

Information Technology

Director: Don Ingle
303-441-3080

Library & The Arts

Director: Tony Tallent
303-441-3100

Municipal Court

Municipal Judge: Linda Cooke
303-441-1843

Open Space & Mountain Parks

Director: Michael Patton
303-441-3440

Parks and Recreation

Interim Director: Tracy Winfree
303-413-7200

Community Planning

Executive Director: Ruth McHeyser
303-441-1880

Police

Police Chief: Mark Beckner
303-441-3310

Public Works

Executive Director: Maureen Rait
303-441-3200

Senior Services

Division Manager: John Riggle
303-441-4150

Transportation

Interim Director: Mike Gardner-
Sweeney
303-441-3162

Utilities

Director: Ned Williams
303-441-3209

For complete listings of city departments, projects
and programs, go to www.bouldercolorado.gov
and click on "City A-Z."

► Boulder City Government



Boards and Commissions

The city's 20 boards and commissions study information and make recommendations to City Council on issues within the board's area of expertise. Recruitment for annual board appointments occurs in January. For more information: www.bouldercolorado.gov, click on "Boards and Commissions."

- Arts Commission
- Beverages Licensing Authority
- Board of Zoning Adjustment
- Boulder Urban Renewal Authority
- Chautauqua Association
- Downtown Design Advisory Board
- Downtown Management Commission
- Environmental Advisory Board
- Housing Authority
- Human Relations Commission
- Landmarks Board
- Library Commission
- Open Space Board of Trustees
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Planning Board
- Transportation Advisory Board
- University Hill Commercial Area Management Commission
- Water Resources Advisory Board
- Youth Opportunities Advisory Board

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are open to the public and are generally held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 1777 Broadway, in Council Chambers (second floor). Meetings are aired live on Channel 8 and re-broadcast Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Fridays at 11 a.m. Tapes are also available for checkout at the Main Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave. In addition, meetings are available online at www.bouldercolorado.gov/channel8. Study sessions are open to the public and are generally held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. For more information, please call 303-441-3002 or visit www.bouldercolorado.gov and click on "calendar."

Important Numbers:

General Info: 303-441-3388

Emergency: 911

Police Dispatch for Non-Emergency: 303-441-3333

Office of Human Rights: 303-441-3141

Community Mediation Program: 303-441-4364

Animal Control: 303-442-4030

INSIDE BOULDER

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Spring Contributors

Mike Banuelos, Public Works and Community Planning; Andrew Barth, Public Works and Community Planning; Kellie Battaglia, Housing and Human Services; Paul Bousquet, Parks and Recreation; Jane S. Brautigam, Boulder City Manager; Jennifer Bray, Boulder Public Library; John Bunzli, Housing and Human Services; Holly Cahill, Housing and Human Services; Jodie Carroll, City Manager's Office; Ellen Cunningham, Downtown and University Hill Management Division; Crystal Gray, Boulder Deputy Mayor; Sarah Huntley, Fire Department; Jody Jacobson, Public Works and Community Planning; Abbey Mermis, Communication Division; Steve Mertz, Open Space and Mountain Parks; Shireen Miller, Office of Environmental Affairs; Susan Osborne, Boulder City Council; Beth Powell, Office of Environmental Affairs; Jim Reasor, Finance; Andrea Robbins, GO Boulder.

Boulder City Council

CONTACTING CITY COUNCIL Mail letters to: Office of the City Council, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306-0791

Fax letters to: 303-441-4478 • Council office phone: 303-441-3002 • E-mail all council members at once: council@bouldercolorado.gov



Matt Appelbaum
Mayor
appelbaum@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2009



Crystal Gray
Deputy Mayor
grayc@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2011



Suzy Ageton
Council Member
agetons@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2009



Macon Cowles
Council Member
Cowles.bouldercouncil@gmail.com
Term expires:
November 2009



Angelique Espinoza
Council Member
espinozaa@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2009



Lisa Morzel
Council Member
morzell@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2011



Susan Osborne
Council Member
osbornes@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2011



Ken Wilson
Council Member
wilsonk@bouldercolorado.gov
Term expires:
November 2011

► Message from the City Council

So long, Shaun



With regret and excitement, the council bid good-bye to **Mayor Shaun McGrath** on Feb. 10. McGrath resigned from City Council to take a position as deputy director of intergovernmental affairs in the Obama administration. Following McGrath's resignation, the council voted **Matt Appelbaum** as the city's 44th mayor. **Crystal Gray** will continue to serve as deputy mayor.

McGrath will be remembered for his constant advocacy for city actions toward community sustainability, including SmartGrid, the small car initiative, economic vitality programs and diversity programs. He represented the city in Dushanbe, Tajikistan and Lhasa, Tibet last fall. He loved disc golf, and we're hoping he finds a good course to play in D.C.

Beyond Boulder

Councilmember **Suzy Ageton** made a February trip to Washington to lobby for funding for improvements to U.S. 36. Elected officials from along the corridor went as a delegation and met with senators, representatives and federal officials. The climate in Washington is now very favorable to the "mode rich" corridor that is being proposed.

Mayor Appelbaum was selected to serve on the National League of Cities Energy Committee. **Macon Cowles** has been elected to Denver Regional Council of Governments' administrative committee.

City Council Goals for 2009

Each January, the City Council meets to decide on its goals for the year. Four broad topics were identified for 2009: Community Sustainability, Community Planning, Climate Action Plan and Revenue Stabilization. Specific projects toward achieving each goal were selected.

To be chosen, each goal had to meet the following criteria: be achievable and measurable in 2009; have long term implications and sustainability; address community needs and have broad benefits; and be within available financial resources.

Community Sustainability - focus on specific activities in the social sustainability plan

- Complete revision to affordable housing plan.
- Implement sustainability plan and organize inclusive community events and council volunteer days.
- Increase neighborhood livability (safety programs, including alcohol, youth and gangs).

Community Planning - complete specific community planning projects and to achieve predictability and community benefit in development

- Revisit the inclusionary zoning program, and clarify and revise if needed.
- Complete several downtown projects including a consideration of Floor Area Ratio bonuses; design guidelines; downtown plan revision.

Climate Action Plan (CAP) - achieve CAP goals with specific activities and make measurable progress on Kyoto carbon reduction targets

- Develop energy efficiency regulations for existing buildings and implement weatherization programs.
- Advocate for the removal of regulatory barriers to the solar farm project.



Boulder City Council

- Support new projects on "Recycle Row."
- Incorporate available SmartGrid technologies into CAP programs.

Revenue Stabilization - achieve revenue stabilization through incorporation of the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) I and II recommendation and economic vitality programs

- Review and implement the recommendations of BRC I and II.
- Add permanent funding for the economic vitality programs.

Implementing these goals during volatile economic conditions will be tough. Due to the rapid deterioration in the economy, we begin 2009 with city sales tax revenues estimated to be at least 4 percent below the original budget projections, and much uncertainty about future revenues. We are hopeful that with clear near-term goals, good progress will be possible.

For more information on City Council priorities and the city's work plan, visit www.bouldercolorado.gov.

► City Budget

2009 Budget Update

The city of Boulder, along with most local and state governmental entities, is facing a budget shortfall resulting from the current economic downturn. City sales tax revenues are currently estimated to be at least 4 percent below the original budget projections. Because of the city's reliance upon sales and use tax to fund its many programs and services, the city is developing short-and long-term strategies to successfully manage through the changing economy.

In the short-term, the city administration has developed a budget stabilization strategy which identifies and implements \$3.6 million in reductions in spring 2009. In addition, revenue trends will be monitored with an additional \$1.8 million (or more) in reductions identified for potential implementation in May 2009.

In the long-term, the city administration is developing budget stabilization strategies that will influence reductions in the second half of 2009 as well as the budget process for 2010 and beyond. It is anticipated that these strategies will identify conceptual proposals that (a) improve efficiency of city operations; (b) detail alternative ways to provide some services to the community (eg., private industry, nonprofit organizations) or (c) detail the elimination or reduction of some city services. A critical component of these long-term stabilization strategies will be a thorough public process prior to action by City Council.

Fortunately, the city of Boulder has been and continues to actively work on economic sustainability. Toward that end, the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) was established to develop a long-term, balanced and stable revenue stream that addresses public priorities, while allowing flexibility to meet the varied and dynamic realities of a municipal corporation over the next 20 years.

The first phase of the BRC, which focused on revenue stabilization, concluded its work in January 2008. Some of the major recommendations included the diversification and extension of current revenue streams, evaluation of new revenues, review of existing financial policies, identify necessary trade-offs, budget reductions, and ensure efficient and effective use of public funds.

The second phase of BRC, which started in September 2008, is focused on city expenditures in order to ensure effective use of public funds and improve organizational efficiency. The commission is developing a framework that will provide recommendations to City Council. BRC II may play an important role in the review of and input on proposed longer term budget stabilization strategies before presentation to the City Council.

For more information, visit www.bouldercolorado.gov, and click on "City A-Z" then "City Budget" or "Blue Ribbon Commission."

► Fire Department

Firefighters review lessons learned from Olde Stage Fire



Credit: Daily Camera

The fire service has a tradition after every major incident. Firefighters review everything that went right, discuss what could have gone better and come up with a list of lessons learned.

The recent Olde Stage Fire, which threatened northwestern parts of our city, reinforced several lessons that our community has known for a long time.

- Wildfires defy seasons. Winter might seem an unlikely time for a blaze, but in Colorado, it can happen anytime of the year.

- Mitigation and careful planning of communities can have a huge impact on controlling fire's growth.
- Having a well-trained and experienced crew of wildland firefighters is essential.
- And lastly, partnerships among agencies is important.

More than 40 Boulder firefighters fought the Jan. 7 fire side-by-side with fire crews from the county and a variety of other metro-area agencies. The first response came from the city's wildland division and wildland specialty team. These firefighters covered the hills, battling the wind-whipped wildfire. When it became apparent that the flames were spreading towards the Dakota Ridge subdivision, structure firefighters poured into that community to protect threatened homes. Personnel from the city's Open Space and Mountain Parks Department joined both efforts.

In addition to critical staffing, the fire department provided much-needed equipment, such as traditional fire engines and wildland engines, specifically brush trucks and water tenders.

*Olde Stage Firefighter Appreciation
Community Dinner at Altona Grange, Jan. 10, 2009*

As a result of the collective work, no homes in the city of Boulder were damaged, no city residents were injured and no city firefighters were hurt.

"The positive outcome shows how important it is that we all work together, and the value that well-trained and experienced crews can have in a wildland emergency," said Wildland Division Chief Greg Toll.

Since then, residents have expressed their gratitude in many different ways, including letters to the department and a thank you dinner for all firefighters who worked the emergency.

"We appreciate the outpouring of support," Toll said. "This is the job that we, as firefighters, are trained and prepared to do, but it is gratifying to hear how much our work matters to the community we serve."



► Office of Environmental Affairs

Boulder's Climate Action Plan



Through its Climate Action Plan, the city is implementing programs and services to achieve the Kyoto goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012.

Nearly 75 percent of local GHG emissions come from energy use—and loss—in commercial, industrial and residential buildings, and 20 percent from driving. While some may point to local government efforts to curb GHG emissions as purely symbolic, we believe our community-funded efforts are making a difference.

Given local government's role in regulating land use development and building codes, the city is positioned to help make long-term shifts in energy consumption. But it is not something local government can achieve on its own. In Boulder, we do not have control over how our energy is generated, and we cannot legislate habits such as turning off computers or taking the bus. Reducing our collective "carbon footprint" means the city needs to commit to doing what it can and urge others to do the same.

In partnership with Xcel Energy, Boulder County, a host of nonprofits and community volunteers, we have reversed the growth of local GHG emissions. In 2008, our efforts helped keep roughly 81,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere. With three years left to reach our goal, we're heading in the right direction.

We've done this by improving energy efficiency and encouraging people to change behavior; by providing energy audits for 850 buildings, distributing over 34,000 compact fluorescent light bulbs, providing over 100 insulation rebates, and handing out 550 conservation kits; by encouraging transit use to reduce local driving; by updating our Green Points building program to improve energy efficiency in over 370 new homes and 692 remodel/additions since 2006, with new city regulations requiring 30 percent greater efficiency in commercial buildings and up to 75 percent more efficiency in homes; and by connecting hundreds of households with low-interest ClimateSmart™ loans for home energy improvements.

City departments are also doing their part, with the goal of internal operations being 100 percent energy independent within the next 10 years. We've converted 40 percent of our fleet to alternative fuel vehicles, installed solar systems on three city buildings, and are constructing a one megawatt solar facility at our wastewater treatment plant. We will continue expanding our use of non-carbon en-

ergy sources and partnering with Xcel Energy on Smart Grid implementation and other projects.

Reaching the goal will not be easy, but it's possible. We've evaluated and refined our action plan for climate change. With our re-tooled programs and current funding, we are confident that we can achieve over 60 percent of our goal by 2012 (eliminating 260,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide) through a combination of incentives, requirements, education, and social mobilization.

Residents are encouraged to read the most recent draft of our "Community Guide to Boulder's Climate Action Plan" at www.beClimateSmart.com. It provides an overview of current programs—as well as new strategies to reach 100 percent of our goal. This spring City Council will consider whether or not to increase the voter-approved carbon tax from the minimum range it has been at since 2006.

Regardless of the tax discussion outcome, two things are certain: our commitment to lowering GHG emissions and achieving the Kyoto goal is unwavering, and reaching the goal will require everyone's commitment and action.

► Public Works



Current: Northbound Broadway at North Street



Improvements after construction

Broadway (Pine to Iris) reconstruction project is underway

The Broadway (Pine to Iris) Reconstruction Project began in mid-February and is expected to conclude in July 2010. This \$9.8 million Public Works Department construction project is funded with a combination of city, state and federal funds. This funding includes federal transportation dollars totaling \$6.5 million for both design and construction and \$2.25 million from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) for both design and construction.

Construction will primarily be done in “segments.” Below are the tentative segment schedules:

- **Segment A:** From Pine to North streets; approximately four to five months from mid-February to July 2009.
- **Segment B:** From North Street to Balsam Avenue; approximately three and a half months from early-May to late August 2009.
- **Segment C and D:** From Balsam Avenue to North Boulder Recreation Center (NBRC), and NBRC to Iris Avenue. The last two segments will take approximately 10 months total from late-August 2009 to July 2010.

This project represents a significant public investment, and the improvements made will provide ongoing community benefits with less frequent future maintenance and an improved transportation and utility infrastructure for travel, living and business needs.

The major project improvements include:

- Reconstruct the street into concrete;
- Upgrade public and private utilities, including major storm sewer improvements;
- Reconstruct deteriorated sidewalks; and
- Make minor urban design, transit stop enhancements and landscaping improvements.

For up-to-date road closure information and additional project information, visit www.bouldertransportation.net and click on “Projects,” then “Broadway (Pine to Iris) Reconstruction,” or call Noreen Walsh, Public Works Department, at 303-441-3266.

Transportation options during construction

The city is committed to lessening the impacts to the surrounding community and businesses during construction. Here are a few options to consider:

- Take the SKIP for more efficient trips up and down Broadway.
- Walk or bike (13th Street and 9th Street - bike corridors).
- Use alternative arterial routes such as Foothills Parkway, 28th Street or Folsom for thru-city travel.

For more options, visit www.GOBoulder.net.

► Environmental Affairs

Spring Clean-up replaced by curbside composting collection

The Spring Clean-up program has been discontinued and replaced by curbside composting collection. Your trash hauler now collects yard waste and other compostable materials every other week throughout the year.

Program Details:

- Yard waste, including branches, should be placed in your compost cart.
- If branches do not fit in your cart, place up to three bundles of branches beside your compost cart on collection day.
- Requirements for each bundle:
 - Maximum size: 3 feet by 6 feet
 - Maximum weight: 35 pounds
 - Must be tied with compostable twine (no plastic or nylon). Maximum branch thickness: 6 inches
- You may reduce bundling by ordering a larger compost cart for a fee (annual or seasonal subscriptions available). You can also upgrade your recycling bin to a larger size for free - up to 96 gallon sized bin.

If you do not have curbside collection service, please know that you have choices.

- You can take your yard waste and branches to the city sponsored Yard Waste Drop-off center located at Western Disposal's Transfer station, 5880 Butte Mill Road which is free to city of Boulder residents.
- You can call your hauler to schedule a special pick-up of large quantities of yard waste for an additional fee.

For collection and cart information, contact your trash hauler. For general recycling and composting information, visit www.environmentalaffairs.com.

► GO Boulder



Nearly 850 people registered for Boulder's first Winter Bike to Work Day. For information on Walk and Bike Month, held in June, and to sign up for Bike to Work Day on June 24 visit www.GOBoulder.net. For customized bike routing directions within the city of Boulder, visit www.GOBikeBoulder.net.

► Open Space & Mountain Parks

Free guided nature hikes



The city of Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP) offers year-round “Natural Selections” nature programs on topics including ecology, geology, wildlife, local history, night hikes, children's programs, plus many more. All programs are free and open to the public. Please bring water, snacks and wear suitable footwear. Please do not bring dogs. Visit our Web site at www.NatureHikes.org for a list of programs and directions to meeting points, or join our electronic list serve for weekly reminders about upcoming hikes. Call OSMP at 303-441-3440 for more information.

► Parking Services



City-owned parking garages will get a new look in 2009

Parking garages will see new improvements in 2009 with much needed repairs and aesthetic sprucing up. Initial efforts began in January focusing on the following facilities:

- St. Julien Hotel parking garage, located at 1000 Walnut St. – work began in mid- January and focused on water sealing and repairing cracks. During renovations there will be intermittent noise during the day from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parking will be available in the garage during the course of the work.
- The parking garage located at 11th and Spruce streets – work began in late February. Improvements include replacement of the fire suppression system and lighting. While sections of the garage may be closed off, parking will be available in the garage.

Repair work will be conducted on the following facilities later this year:

- The Randolph Building parking garage, located at 11th and Walnut streets -structural improvements are scheduled as well as refurbishment to the public lobby and aesthetic improvements to the exterior.
- RTD parking garage, located at 14th and Walnut streets.
- The parking garage located at 15th and Pearl streets.

This \$4 million multi-year Central Area General Improvement District (CAGID) Capital Maintenance and Improvement Plan is anticipated to be completed in 2010. Water proofing and concrete repair items have been identified as a priority to be completed before aesthetic improvements, such as signing, painting, etc. LED lighting has been integrated into the design where possible. Every attempt will be made to ease any impact on customers. Our goal is to have garages open during renovation; however, areas within specific garages may be temporarily closed to accommodate repair projects.

Funding for this project comes from capital improvement monies previously set aside for paying the debt for the initial construction of the garages. Capital budget funds will stay in place for upkeep to avoid large scale renovations.

Regular updates, visit www.boulderparking.com. For additional information, contact Kurt Matthews, parking manager, Downtown and University Hill Management Division and Parking Services, 303-413-7320.

► Housing and Human Services

2009 Food Tax Rebate applications available

Each year, the city of Boulder provides rebates to help compensate lower income residents for the city sales tax they pay on food. Those seeking a rebate must fill out an application documenting their eligibility. The application period began March 2 and runs through June 30. Previous applicants will automatically receive an application in the mail.

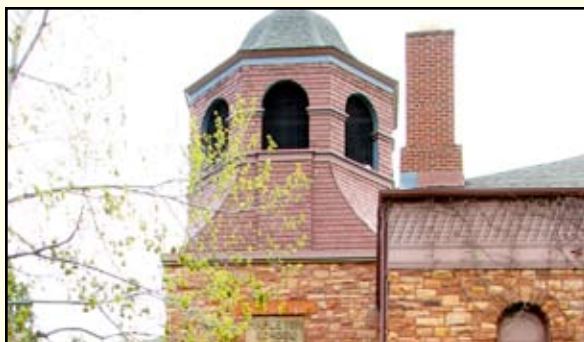
To be eligible to receive a refund, you must have been a resident of Boulder for the entire 2008 calendar year, and be one of the following:

- A low-income senior, age 62 or over for the entire 2008 calendar year;
- A low-income person with disabilities; or
- A low-income family with children under 18 years of age.

Rebates will be \$70 for low-income individuals and \$212 for low-income families. An information sheet on the program is available on the internet at www.bouldercommunityservices.com.

This program is administered by the Division of Community Services, Department of Housing and Human Services. For more information, call John Bunzli, program manager, at 303-441-1836. Applications can be picked up from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the West Boulder Senior Center, 909 Arapahoe Ave.

Mapleton Early Childhood Center plan could give new life to historic school site



The historic Mapleton school site may see children again in the future. A local coalition is working to revitalize the vacant school as the Mapleton Early Childhood Center. The proposed concept for the school, located at 840 Mapleton Ave., envisions a center that provides comprehensive, affordable, quality education programs and services for children from birth to age 5 at a range of income levels. The coalition includes the city of Boulder, Boulder County, Boulder Valley School District (BVSD), Jared Polis Foundation, and Early Childhood Council of Boulder County.

BVSD closed the public school five years ago because of declining enrollment; however the district is interested in finding a use for the closed school that also supports its K-12 educational goals. The goals of the proposed early

Colorado Children's Day at Boulder

Fun for kids! Fun for Adults!
April 24, 2009 - Noon to 4 p.m. - Pearl Street Mall
<http://ccdboulder.googlepages.com> - 303-441-1977

City of Boulder Housing & Human Services
 KAWAIA FOUNDATION
 Boulder Valley School District
 Excellence and Equity

childhood center would aspire to help prepare children to succeed at school and in life.

Services available at the site could include health and wellness screenings, literacy support and information, and referral to community agencies. It is envisioned that the site will also include space for after-hours community events and activities.

The coalition completed a Feasibility Study in 2008 which indicated an early childhood center to be a compatible use of the building and site. The next phase of the project is preparing a detailed proposal for operations at the site. This phase will include developing a Services, Business, and Financing Plan and Schematic Architectural Plans that will be submitted for approval to the Boulder Valley School Board and city of Boulder in mid-2009. In early 2009, the coalition solicited letters of interest from service providers who may want to offer programs at the center when rehabilitation is complete. It is anticipated that if the project is approved by the school board and funding secured, construction could begin in 2010.

The feasibility study is available online at www.bouldercolorado.gov/hhs, with a link to Mapleton Early Education Center, under "Current Projects." For more information, contact Holly Cahill, Housing and Human Services Department, 303-441-1829.

► Public Library

One Book, One Boulder County 2009: “Bridge to Terabithia”

Credit: Samantha Loomis Paterson



Kate Paterson

“Bridge to Terabithia,” by Katherine Paterson is the 2009 One Book, One Boulder County selection.

Libraries in Boulder, Longmont, Lafayette, Louisville, Erie and Nederland will host One Book, One Boulder County programs, along with the Boulder Valley School District and the University of Colorado (CU). This reading

and discussion program encourages residents to read the same book at the same time to create a countywide book club. For the project’s culminating programs, author Katherine Paterson will visit Boulder on April 30 and May 1, for public speaking events.

“Bridge to Terabithia” is a book about two lonely children who create a magical forest kingdom. Paterson drew inspiration for the novel from a real event that occurred in August 1974, when a friend of her son was struck by lightning at a beach and died. In “Bridge to Terabithia,” Jesse befriends a new neighbor, Leslie. Through his friendship with Leslie, and his ultimate tragic loss of her, Jesse is transformed.

A classic of children’s literature, the book is studied in English classes around the world. In 1986, a TV movie was produced by PBS and in 2007, a theatrical film version, by Disney and Walden Media, was released. **A free screening of this film will be introduced by Denver actress AnnaSophia Robb, who played the role of Leslie, at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 3, in the Main Boulder Public Library’s Canyon Theater, 1001 Arapahoe Ave.**

A dinner welcoming author Katherine Paterson to Boulder will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, in the ballroom of the Hotel Boulderado, 2115 13th St. This is the only One Book, One Boulder County program for which there is a charge. (\$35/ person)

“The 2009 One Book, One Boulder County selection, ‘Bridge to Terabithia’ by Katherine Paterson, is a Newbery Award-winning book that brings together families and readers from all segments of the county,” said Boulder Mayor Matt Appelbaum. “We are pleased to be in our fourth year of offering this community reading program and hope you enjoy reading or re-reading this timeless book. Join your neighbors for One Book community events, talks and programs throughout April, including a free talk by Katherine Paterson at Macky on May 1.”

A complete list of programs is available at www.onebookoneboulder.info.

Generous Donations

At the end of 2008, Boulder Public Library was the beneficiary of two very generous and unexpected donations that, as all donations are, very much appreciated. A library patron dropped off a card addressed to Boulder Public Library, inside the card was a check for \$1,000. The patron requested that the money be used for the library collection, and it is being used that way.

A volunteer tutor for BoulderReads! received a message from her employer, Digital Globe, asking employees who volunteer somewhere to request a donation for those organizations. The volunteer responded by telling them that she had been tutoring an adult learner and has seen how this work is positively impacting the learner’s life. She asked if Digital Globe would consider a donation of \$200 for BoulderReads! Digital Globe gave a check to BoulderReads! for \$2,000.



Credit: Sherri O'Hara

Did You Know?

The Boulder Public Library supports diversity in the community in the following ways:

- The library offers 11 weekly Conversations in English classes for people from all over the world; these classes are attended by hundreds of people who learn American English.
- The library has weekly literacy discussion gathering for people who are still learning the English language, but are more advanced than others in the language; they read and discuss a variety of essays, short stories, plays and poetry.
- The library holds weekly citizenship classes aimed at helping future citizens study for the citizenship test. Boulder has new U.S. citizens every week.
- The first beginning Spanish class was attended by 20 people from Russia, Nepal, Taiwan, China, Israel, India and Belgium, along with U.S. born citizens.
- The library, along with Boulder Valley School District Spanish teachers, offers a monthly Latin American/Spain book club in Spanish.

2009 Summer Reading Programs at Boulder Public Library

Summer is right around the corner, and to help you choose summertime reading, the library announces the adult and children’s summer reading programs for 2009.

The children’s theme is “Be Creative” and runs from May 31 through July 18. Registration begins on Sunday, May 31, at the children’s library at the main library and the Reynolds and Meadows branches. We’ll explore creativity through writing, science, art, music and reading!

For more information, call 303-441-3099 or visit www.boulderlibrary.org/youth.



Credit: Sherri O'Hara

The adult summer reading program theme is “So many books, so little time!”



Credit: Sherri O'Hara

What do you think are the best novels to read in a lifetime? A recently published book, “1,001 Books You Must Read before You Die” is a list of recommended reading, including reviews, by a group of world-renowned book critics. **Beginning in May, Boulder Public Library will post that book list and display selections at the Fiction and Media desk in the Main Library.**

Between June 15 and Aug. 15, Boulder Library staff would love to hear what you think are the best novels to read in a lifetime. Visit the library Web site, www.boulderlibrary.org, and enter your top fiction recommendations. You can also fill out paper ballots at the Main Library or the Meadows and Reynolds branches. All suggestions will be posted along with a display of Boulder patrons’ book suggestions that are available for check-out at the end of August. For more information, call the Fiction Desk, 303-441-4108.



► Parks and Recreation



Boulder Reservoir

Exciting plans for Parks and Recreation in 2009

The Parks and Recreation Department is looking forward to accomplishing many projects in 2009. The development of recreation and reservoir master plans is underway, several park development and construction projects are scheduled, and we're looking forward to welcoming a new director and recreation superintendent within the next few months.

Here's a glimpse of what we've got planned for 2009. We hope you'll join us at an open house, special event or by enjoying your favorite park or recreation program.

Recreation Program and Facilities Plan: Work began in January to develop a Recreation Program and Facilities Plan. The goal of the plan is to help guide decision-making and set priorities for recreation programs and facilities and to be in alignment with community interests and the department's master plan. Resident input will be gathered through public meetings and surveys to ensure the plan is consistent with community values and priorities. The plan is scheduled for completion this year. An open house will be held in April. Visit www.BoulderParks-Rec.org for more information.

Boulder Reservoir Master Plan: Development of a Boulder Reservoir Master Plan will begin this spring (and be completed in 2010). The plan will determine future direction for operations and management of the facility, establish investment priorities and identify capital needs. A community input process will be included in the plan's development. To sign up for e-mail updates, visit www.BoulderRez.org.

East Boulder Community Park (EBCP): Elements of the Phase Two development plan for EBCP, are projected to begin later this year. Following a 2008 community input process, Phase Two plans include two artificial turf multi-purpose fields, restrooms, picnic shelter, dog park, parking lot, pedestrian and bicycle links, and improvements to existing ball courts.

Valmont City Park (VCP): Phase One development of the park, located at Airport and Valmont roads, is tentatively scheduled to begin this summer and will include a 35-acre bike park and separate dog park (on the north side of Valmont Road), and disc golf course (on the south side of Valmont Road). Boulder Mountainbike Alliance (BMA) is raising funds to support enhanced features by supplementing the city's \$750,000 allocation for the bike park.

Dakota Ridge: A new neighborhood park, currently under construction at Dakota Boulevard and Fifth Street, is slated for completion in 2009 and includes playground structures, artistic elements, landscaping and shade shelters.

Boulder Reservoir: Measures to protect against aquatic nuisance species (ANS) will be implemented in 2009. ANS are an environmental and economic hazard to all waterways. A boat inspection and quarantine process has been established to protect our resources. For information, visit www.BoulderRez.org.

All park construction and development news is online at www.BoulderParkNews.org or at www.BoulderParks-Rec.org.



Community Cleanup Day Volunteers

Spring 2009 Programs and Events Offerings

April 15 – Registration ends for summer adult sports leagues: Softball and kickball leagues begin in May. Visit www.BPRSports.org. Soccer also available.

April 30 – Fundraiser for Valmont Bike Park- co-sponsored by Boulder Mountainbike Alliance. Details at www.ValmontCityPark.org

May 5 – Registration begins for summer recreation programs! Get info on outdoor pool, reservoir and recreation center programs and hours in your Summer Rec Guide or view them at: www.BoulderParks-Rec.org.

May 16 - Community Cleanup Day. Help beautify Boulder! Volunteer to pull weeds, plant flowers or clean-up parks, greenways and roads. Join others to make a difference in your town. More information at www.BoulderParks-Rec.org

May 25 – EXPAND Duck Race. Help support programs for local people with disabilities by sponsoring a duck at a recreation center, Farmer's Market (in May) or the Boulder Creek Festival (May 22-25) or www.EXPANDduckrace.org.



Enter to Win a \$20 Downtown Boulder Gift Certificate!

Contest rules:

Take two or more of the actions listed below during April in the city of Boulder. To be entered into the drawing, e-mail climatestories@bouldercolorado.gov or call 303-441-1846 to let us know which actions you took. Deadline: April 30, 2009. Three winners will be notified via e-mail (or phone) by May 15, 2009.

ClimateSmart actions:

Check your next Xcel Energy bill to compare your household's energy use with the Colorado average of 625 kWh (electricity) per month and 79 therms (natural gas) per month.

Borrow a Kill-a-Watt™ meter from the Center for ReSource Conservation (2639 Spruce St., 303-999-3820) to test how much energy is drawn by any item plugged into an outlet.

Map your bike commute to school, work and frequent destinations at www.GOBikeBoulder.net and commit to riding more in 2009.

Call ClimateSmart Outreach Coordinator Beth Powell at 303-441-1846 to inquire about joining your neighborhood's climate action group.